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EVENT: Office Name Change

**US ATTORNEY ANNOUNCES NAME CHANGE OF OFFICE'S COUNTER-TERRORISM
UNIT TO REFLECT ENHANCED NATIONAL SECURITY PRIORITIES**

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The United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Michigan has changed the name of its nine-member Counter-Terrorism Unit (CTU) to the **National Security Unit (NSU)**, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced today. Although the change is in name only, it more accurately reflects the overall expanded national security mission of the unit beyond counter-terrorism, and recognizes the continuing commitment of the office in carrying out the Department of Justice's highest priorities: combating and prosecuting terrorism, and protecting homeland security through the active engagement of foreign and domestic threats.

"It's important to have a name for this crucial unit that accurately describes the highly specialized and security-sensitive work the unit does with the help of its partners in the law

enforcement and intelligence communities,” United States Attorney Murphy said. “Our office’s National Security Unit will continue to focus its resources on preventing terrorism and protecting the security of our people.”

Created as a five-member unit in 2002 in response to the 9/11 attacks, the role of the Counter-Terrorism Unit was originally to investigate and prosecute those who plan, financially support, or carry out international and domestic terrorist activities. More recently, and consistent with the Department’s creation of a separate National Security Division, its responsibilities have expanded to include other investigations and prosecutions involving national security including foreign counter-intelligence, espionage, and certain transnational organized crime groups involved in alien smuggling, cash smuggling and the operation of illegal unlicensed money transmitting businesses.

The National Security Unit coordinates the U.S. Attorney’s Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council (“ATAC”). The ATAC – chaired by United States Attorney Murphy – is composed of federal, state, and local law enforcement executives, emergency managers, and private sector security managers (the latter being an innovation unique to the Eastern District of Michigan). The ATAC facilitates the sharing of information and organizes training aimed at preventing terrorism so that law enforcement and security managers can operate seamlessly across all levels. The ATAC hosts quarterly meetings, sends alerts and bulletins to its partners, and organizes and conducts training programs for law enforcement officers and first responders. The ATAC is actively involved in special event planning, such as the 2005 Major League Baseball All-Star Game and Super Bowl XL.

The United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of Michigan prosecutes civil and criminal matters on behalf of the United States of America and its agencies in the 34 counties that make up the eastern half of the state. The Office serves a population of more than 6.7 million Michigan residents and is comprised of approximately 100 Assistant United

States Attorneys and a similar number of support staff.

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy was appointed by President Bush to his position on March 8, 2005 and confirmed by unanimous consent of the United States Senate three months later.